Distribution of 1998, 1999, 2000 Traffic Collision Data

An Email to all County Engineers and Mobility Administrators

Please share with Traffic Engineers, CRIS Managers, Crash Coders, HES Program Managers, Risk Managers, everyone you deem appropriate.

Below is a memo from WSDOT Transportation Data Office concerning the upcoming distribution of a portion of the backlog collision data. This is being done so all local agencies will have the needed information for the upcoming (April 2002) HES call for projets.

Some additonal information:

CRAB will be recieving the paper copies of all collision reports involved in this process (officers reports and citizens reports not matched with a officers report). When we recieve them, we will send the citizens reports on to you, and we will keep the officers reports on file until April, and then destroy them appropriatly. If you need the copy of the office's report, let me know and we will send them to you. When you get the citizens reports, please fill out a County Location Coding Form for each one and send it to WSP, so the information can be included in the database. Use your generic location coding form, if you need another one let me know.

TDO will be sending us the electronic data in an Excel spreadsheet. We will be extracting your countys information and sending it to you. It will be in an Excel 2000 spreadsheet and a format that will allow it to be imported into CRIS. If you need it in another format, let me know and we can do the conversion here for you.

Steve Hillesland will be developing an import routine to get this information into CRIS. The details have not been finalized, but (most likely) it will be imported to a CRASH_BACKLOG table, rather than the CRIS Accident table. This will allow you to work with just this data for the HES analysis. Another reason is that the citizens reports will not have the road number and milepost, but will have the trafficways (road name) as provided by the citizen completing the report. The data will be imported with a arbitrary road number (99999 or one that noone uses) and an arbirary milepost (99.999 or 00.000 or something) so the data gets into CRIS. There will be a tool to add the road number and milepost as determined by you as part of the County Collision Locating process. More on this as Steve develops the process.

If you have any quesitons, please let me know.

Dave Whitcher

Management Systems Engineer
County Road Administration Board
(360) 753-5989, x234

December 21, 2001

RE: Distribution of 1998, 1999 and 2000 traffic collision data

Dear County Engineer:

The County Road Administration Board, in cooperation with the Washington State
Department of Transportation and the Washington State Patrol, will soon be providing
you with copies of 1998, 1999 and 2000 officer investigated and citizen traffic collision
forms for those collisions that occurred in your jurisdiction. In addition, CRAB will also
be providing you with electronic data for these collisions in three distributions, one for
each of the above years. The electronic data will be in ASCII comma delimited format
and contain a limited number of fields that have been captured from officer and citizen
collision forms (only those citizen collision forms which do not have a matching officer
collision form are included). The file layout for the electronic data will be sent with the
initial distribution of collision forms, and can also be found at the following web site
address: www.crab.wa.gov.

By providing you copies of the collision forms along with the electronic data for your
jurisdiction, it is hoped that you will have the opportunity to perform the necessary
review and analysis to prepare for upcoming grant applications and other safety
improvements. Should you have questions about either the collision forms or the
electronic data, please contact Dave Whitcher at (360) 753-5989.